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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/880,986

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Masaaki Hiroki

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EXAMINER

VO, HUYEN X

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2626

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/13/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/880,986

Applicant(s)

HIROKI, MASA AKI

Examiner

Huyen X. Vo

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 June 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 41, 44, 48 and 49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 41, 44, 48 and 49 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. The previous office action has been withdrawn in favor of a new office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 6, 41, and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Taguchi et al. (US 6148253).

4. Regarding claim 6, Taguchi et al. disclose an information providing system comprising:

a first server (*RAS server 21 I figure 4*) for obtaining information from a database managed by a second server (*Internet Provider 5-6 in figure 4*);

a portable information equipment capable of two-way communication with the first server (*rear server 12 in figure 4*), the portable information equipment having a first display portion (*figure 6, front and rear VCC, multiple display devices*); and

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a display device for receiving information from the first server, the display device having a second display portion (*col. 4, lines 44-60*),

wherein the portable information equipment sends a search signal to the first server (*referring to the operation of figures 4-5*), wherein the first server sends the search signal to the second server and conducts a search to the database managed by the second server based on the search signal (*referring to the operation of figures 4-5*),

receives information obtained by the search from the second server, and sends the information to the display device, wherein the display device displays the information on the second display portion of the display device (*referring to the operation of figures 4-5, map search in an example*), and

wherein the display device is mounted on means for transportation (*figure 7*).

5. Regarding claim 41, Taguchi et al. further disclose a system according to claim 6, wherein the means for transportation is one selected from the group consisting of a bus, a taxi, a train and a boat (*figure 7*).

6. Regarding claim 48, Taguchi et al. further disclose the information providing system according to claim 6, wherein the display device has a unit for detecting an electromagnetic wave sent from the portable information equipment (*element 3 in figure 2 is a wireless network, thus the portable phone 16 would inherently includes transceiver for transmitting and receiving electromagnetic signal*).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 25-26, 28, 31-32, 44, and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taguchi et al. (US 6148253) in view of Ramasubramani et al. (US 6516316).

9. Regarding claim 25, Taguchi et al. disclose an information providing method, comprising the steps of:

sending, by the portable information equipment, a search signal to the first server
(referring to the operation of figures 4-5);

communicating, by the first server, with a second server *(referring to the operation of figures 4-5, map search is an example);*

sending the search signal to the second server *(referring to the operation of figures 4-5, map search is an example);*

conducting a search on a database managed by the second server based on the search signal;

receiving information obtained by the search from the second server *(referring to the operation of figures 4-5, map search is an example);*

sending the information to the display device (*referring to the operation of figures 4-5, map search is an example*); and

displaying, by the display device, the information on the second display portion of the display device (*figure 5b*), wherein the display device is mounted on means for transportation (*figure 7*).

Taguchi et al. fail to specifically disclose the steps of sending, by a portable information equipment having a first display portion, an identification signal of a display device having a second display portion and an identification signal of the portable information equipment; and verifying, by the first server, the identification signal of the display device and the identification signal of the portable information equipment. However, Ramasubramani et al. teach the steps of sending, by a portable information equipment having a first display portion, an identification signal of a display device having a second display portion and an identification signal of the portable information equipment (*col. 6, line 47 to col. 7, line 39*); and verifying, by the first server, the identification signal of the display device and the identification signal of the portable information equipment (*col. 6, line 47 to col. 7, line 39*).

Since Taguchi et al. and Ramasubramani et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Taguchi et al. by incorporating the teaching of Ramasubramani et al. in order to enable the system to communicate with specific device/customer.

10. Regarding claims 26 and 28, Taguchi et al. further disclose a method according to claim 25, wherein the display device is disposed at a place that can be seen by an unspecified number of the general public (*figure 7 includes multiple displays that can be accessed by good number of people*), and receiving, by the display device, the information sent from the server or the first server through a line (*RAS server 21 and Internet 6 can be connected through Public Network in figure 4*).

11. Regarding claims 31-32, Taguchi et al. further disclose the method according to claim 25, further comprising a step of displaying, by the display device, information selected from information delivered by a news agency, a newspaper publishing company or a broadcasting station (*internet content can be news, figure 4*), and displaying, by the display device, on the same screen the delivered information and the information obtained by the search on the database, for a programmed period of time or at a time when the server performs an operation (*figure 4, display internet content on the display*).

12. Regarding claim 44, Taguchi et al. further disclose a method according to claim 25, wherein the means for transportation is one selected from the group consisting of a bus, a taxi, a train and a boat (*figure 7*).

13. Regarding claim 49, Taguchi et al. further disclose the information providing method according to claim 25, wherein the display device has a unit for detecting an

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electromagnetic wave sent from the portable information equipment (*element 3 in figure 2 is a wireless network, thus the portable phone 16 would inherently includes transceiver for transmitting and receiving electromagnetic signal*).

14. Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taguchi et al. (US 6148253) in view of Ramasubramani et al. (US 6516316), and in view of official notice.

15. Regarding claim 29, Taguchi et al. fail to specifically disclose a method according to claim 25, further comprising a step of: receiving, by the display device, information sent from the server or the first server via a satellite. However, the examiner takes official notice that voice/data communication via satellite is well known in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Taguchi et al. by incorporating the teaching of satellite communication in order to enable global communication without using high cost landline.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Huyen X. Vo whose telephone number is 571-272-7631. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-5:30.

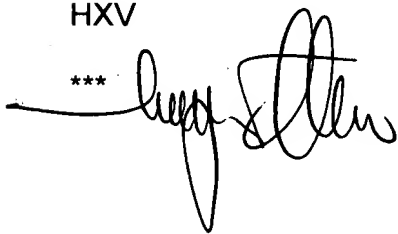
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Edouard can be reached on 571-272-7603. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

HXV

9/4/2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "L. J. Allen", written over a horizontal line.